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REMARKS

The Examiner has allowed claims 1 through 44, 97 and 98. The Examiner has rejected claims 45 through 52, 57 through 63, 76 through 78, 82, 83 and 94 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). The Examiner has rejected claims 64 through 67 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The Examiner has also rejected claims 60 through 62 under 35 U.S.C. §101. The Examiner has objected to claims 53 through 56, 68 through 75, 79 through 81, 84 through 93, 95, 96 and 99, but indicated allowable subject matter. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the withdrawal of the currently pending rejections.

The Section 102(e) Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 45 through 52, 57, 60, 63, 76 through 78, 82, 83 and 94 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Chrisop et al. The Examiner has rejected claims 68 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Tullis. The Examiner has rejected claims 59 and 62 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Phillips.

Claims 45 through 96 and 99 have been cancelled in the current response. Thus, the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) have become moot.

The Section 103(a) Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 64 through 67 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) allegedly being obvious over Niitsuma. Claims 64 through 67 have been cancelled in the current response. Thus, the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) have become moot.

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The Section 101 Rejections

The Examiner has also rejected claims 60 through 62 under 35 U.S.C. §101. Claims 60 through 62 have been cancelled in the current response. Thus, the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101 have become moot.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 100 through 105 have been added to the current application. The newly added claims have been supported by the original disclosure of the current application.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request a favorable Office Action so indicating.

Respectfully submitted,

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